

Message Text

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APPROVED BY AF- MR. NEWSOM

EUR/ IB- MR. MARTIN

IO/ UNP- MR. ROTHENBERG (INFO)

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R 222258 Z JUN 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 123053

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAU, XA, US

SUBJECT: DIALOGUE WITH OAU - PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES

REF: (A) ADDIS ABABA7110 (NOTAL); (B) ADDIS ABABA 7509

(NOTAL); (C) LUSAKA 1101 (NOTAL)

1. DEPARTMENT HAS NOTED WITH INTEREST (REF B) THAT,
AT RECENT OAU SUMMIT, AFRICAN LEADERS OMITTED FROM DRAFT
RESOLUTION ON PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES (PASSED BY COUNCIL
OF MINISTERS) THE PARAGRAPH WHICH CALLED " ARMED STRUGGLE"
THE PRIMARY MEANS OF COMBATTING PORTUGUESE COLONIALISM.
ALSO NOTE THAT ZAMBIA RECENTLY ASKED VATICAN TO MEDIATE
BETWEEN PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT AND CERTAIN LIBERATION
GROUPS (REF C). WHILE THESE TWO EVENTS PROBABLY NOT
CONNECTED, THEY DO POINT UP CONTINUING AFRICAN WILLINGNESS
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TO KEEP CRACK IN DOOR OPEN FOR EVENTUAL TALKS WITH
PORTUGUESE.

2. IN OAU CONTEXT, ASSISTANT SECY GEN SAHNOUN WILL SOON
BE LEAVING AND HE HAS BEEN OUR MAIN POINT OF CONTACT AND
ELEMENT OF CONTINUITY ON QUESTION OF PORTUGUESE- AFRICAN
TALKS DURING PAST SIX MONTHS. THIS INCLUDED ADDIS
BRIEFING SAHNOUN ON ASSISTANT SECY NEWSOM'S IMPRESSIONS
OF HIS LISBON TRIP.

3. IN VIEW SAHNOUN'S IMPENDING DEPARTURE, EMBASSY ADDIS
CONTINUATION OF DIALOGUE WITH OAU SEC GEN EKANGAKI AND
RECENT OAU SUMMIT ACTION, BELIEVE IT COULD BE USEFUL TO ASK
SAHNOUN BEFORE HE LEAVES TO BRIEF EKANGAKI ON OUR EXCHANGE
WITH HIM. FYI. MALCOLM MACDONALD TOLD ASST SECRETARY
NEWSOM HE THOUGHT EKANGAKI SHARED SAHNOUN'S VIEWS. END FYI.
IF DESIRABLE, WE COULD THEN FOLLOW UP IN ONE OF EMBASSY'S
PERIODIC SESSIONS WITH EKANGAKI, PERHAPS BY QUERYING LATTER
ON REASONS FOR DROPPING MILITANT PARAGRAPH FROM OAU RESOLU-
TION. THIS COULD ALSO BE OPPORTUNITY FOR EMBASSY TO BRIEF
EKANGAKI ON " EXAGGERATED IDEA OF US INFLUENCE" ON GOP,
MENTIONED REF B.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY ADDIS APPROACH SAHNOUN WITH
SUGGESTION HE BRIEF EKANGAKI. RUSH

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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